GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:245
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2007
UNAPPROVED AND OVERPRICED DRUG FORMULATIONS
Hasan Chaudhary Munawwar

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has come across with 39 unapproved formulations and 58 overpriced formulations in the list of 886 medicines of the drug companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith names of the companies; and

(c) the action taken / proposed to be taken by the Government against those companies?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS & MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 245 (5th position) FOR ANSWER ON 30-8-2007 ON THE SUBJECT OF `UNAPPROVED AND OVERPRICED DRUG FORMULATIONS`.

(a): Yes, Sir. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has come across with 39 unapproved formulations and 58 overpriced formulations in the list of 886 medicines of the drug companies.

A compilation of a list of 886 medicines, whose prices were voluntarily agreed to be reduced by eleven companies, is available on this Department`s Website www.chemicals.qov. in. It has also been placed in the library of the Parliament. The list covers formulations in all dosage forms such as tablets, capsules and syrups, etc. and they find usage in the treatment of a large number of diseases. The medicines covered are antibiotics, cough syrups, painkillers as well as those used during the surgical operations, for the cure of the infectious diseases and for the treatment of hypertension etc. The revised prices were to be implemented by the companies on packs manufactured after 2nd October/2ndNovember, 2006.

(b)&(c): On scrutiny by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) of the reduction in prices in respect of 886 formulations packs, NPPA has detected prime facie violation of para 8 of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO.95) in respect of 39 formulation packs, which relate to manufacture and marketing of Scheduled formulations by companies without prior price approval. The details of these cases are at Annexure I. Further in respect of 58 formulation packs, NPPA has detected overcharging by the companies concerned under para 13 of DPCO 95. The details of these cases are at Annexure II. In all these cases, action has been initiated for violation of the respective provisions of DPCO 95.